



The H-OLA Gram

Latinos Continue to Serve on Vital City Boards and Commissions

Latinos from all wards of Washington, DC were recently sworn in to serve on various Mayoral Boards and Commissions. The swearing-in ceremony was conducted by the Mayor's Office of Boards and Commissions (OBC) on July 14. OBC reviews and makes recommendations to the Mayor for appointments to more than 150 advisory, policy making, licensing, adjudicatory and legislative boards, commissions and committees, while promoting citizen input and participation in the selection of citizens to serve on boards and commissions.

The Mayor's Commission on Latino Community Development initiated seven new members during the DC Boards and Commissions swearing-in ceremony on July 14. Lita Cristina Trejo, Maria Ivonne Rivera, Betty Paugh Ortiz, William A. Ramos, Guadalupe C. Rascon, Fani Cruz, and Moises D.J. Nunez are the latest additions to the Latino Commission that oversees OLA. Re-appointed to continue their work on the Commission were Pablo Perez, Jose Ramon Andres, and Angela Natal. The full commission will hold its monthly meeting Wednesday, July 23 from 6:30 to 8pm at OLA.

In addition to the Latino Commission, the Mayor also welcomed several prominent members of the Latino community to various boards and commissions. Father Donald Lippert will serve on the Commission on Human Rights, Fernando Lemos will serve on the DC Public Housing Authority Commission, Joseph Reyes will serve on the National Capital Revitalization Corporation Board of Directors, Roberto de Lima will serve on the Developmental Disabilities State Planning Council, and Arthur Padilla and Dr. Juan Ramagoza will serve on the Mayor's Committee on HIV/AIDS Planning Council.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in serving on a city board or commission to affect change and give a voice to the



Maria Green (center), OLA's spokesperson in the Abuela Latina Internacional competition, visited the OLA offices prior to taking the stage for the 2003 competition at the University of the District of Columbia on June 28. OLA staff gathered in support of Ms. Green. (l. to r.) Botoa Navarrete, Community Outreach Specialist; Katherine Ruffner, Community Outreach Coordinator; Christia Alou, Interim Director; Ms. Green; Carlos Alvarenga, Community Outreach Specialist; Lisa Greaves, OLA Summer Advocacy Intern; and Arlene Fernandez, OLA Summer Advocacy Intern.

Calendar of Events:

- **July 23**—Mayor's Commission on Latino Community Development Meeting, 6:30-8pm at OLA.
- **September 4**—Latino Community Development Act Compliance meeting with Agency Spanish Program Coordinators on government-wide language access, from 11am to 12:30pm at OLA.
- **September 10**—OLA's Latino CBO Funding Development Roundtable, Reeves Center 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2-4pm.
- **September 18**—Mayor's Latino Cultural Fair and Town Hall Meeting, "Nuestros Hijos, Nuestros Futuro," 5-8pm at Cardozo High School, 1300 Clifton Street NW.
- **October 5**—DC Government Latino Day: a 6-block street fair in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood, 9am-5pm.
- **November 1**—DC Citizens' Summit to address issues of importance to all District residents, New DC Convention Center, 9am-5pm.

As part of OLA's Community Partnership Initiative, the Community Outreach Team (COT) works hand-in-hand with La Mega Radio and DC agencies, like the Metropolitan Police Department Latino Liaison Unit (MPD-LLU), to bring information and understanding to Latino community over the airwaves. OLA's COT and the LLU recently discussed effective ways to combat youth violence with the La Mega audience. Discussion participants were (l. to r.) Botoa Navarrete, OLA; Det. Elba Longo, MPD; Juan Cruz, La Mega DJ; Officer Pedro Garcia, MPD; Vanesa Parada, La Mega DJ.



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Executive Office of the Mayor, Office on Latino Affairs



OLA Interim Director, Christia Alou, attends the groundbreaking for a DC Parks and Recreation Center at 15th and Girard Street NW. Accompanying Ms. Alou are the President and Vice President of DC Dynasty Baseball and two young program participants.

Employment Opportunities

- The Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs has an opening for a **Bilingual Staff Assistant** to provide front line customer service and conduct administrative and clerical tasks. Qualified applicants will have previous administrative experience, excellent written and oral bilingual communication skills. Interested applicants should contact Bertha Sparrow-Jones at the DC Office of Personnel, 441 4th Street, NW, Room 340 North, Washington, DC, 20001 or (202) 442-9668 or visit the website at www.dc.gov.dcop.
- The Mayor's Office on Community Outreach is seeking an **Outreach Coordinator** to work in Wards 4 and 5. Contact Linda Perkins, Director of the Office of Community Outreach, at (202) 442-8150 for further information.
- The DC Department of Corrections (DOC) currently has an opening for a **Mental Health Clinician** to provide individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, and conduct mental intake assessments of newly admitted individuals into the DC Central Detention Facility. Qualified applicants will have strong interpersonal skills and the ability to interact with people of varied backgrounds and must hold the appropriate license to practice as a licensed professional counselor. Contact Estelle Hunter at (202) 673-8445 or via email at estelle.hunter@dc.gov for more information.
- Neighbors' Consejo is seeking a **Social Services Director** to provide direct mental health counseling for individuals, substance abusers, low-income families, and oversee all case management services. Qualified candidates will have a minimum of 3-5 years experience with low-income and homeless clients—particularly Latino immigrants, MSW or LICSW certification, and in-depth understanding and fluency in Spanish. This is a full-time position with a salary range between \$45,000—\$55,000, depending on experience. For more information, contact Neighbors' Consejo Executive Director, Najiya Shana'a, at (202) 234-6855 or via email at Najiya@neighborsconsejo.org.

TPS Extended 18 Months

Temporary Protection Status (TPS) has been extended to all Salvadorans in the U.S. with valid work visas by February 13, 2001 and after. The TPS extension is valid through March 9, 2005. OLA will co-sponsor a TPS registration event with the Embassy of El Salvador and the Commission on Latino Community Development in September, but for more information before that session, contact the Salvadoran Embassy's TPS informational hotline toll-free at (800) 914-2835.

Mini-Grants Available to Support September 11 Youth Service Projects

The DC Commission on National and Community Service (DC-CNCS) announces mini-grants are available for up to \$750 to support youth-led service projects on or around September 11.

These One Day's Pay Grants are supported through the Freddie Mac Foundation and are part of a nationwide service initiative honoring those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on America. While One Day's Pay promotes service done by volunteers of all ages, the Freddie Mac One Day's Pay Grants will only support service projects that focus on youth involvement.

To be eligible for a mini-grant, applicants must be a

nonprofit, school or university, community group, faith-based, corporation, government agency, or public organization. The youth-led service projects must address a community need in the District of Columbia on or around September 11. A youth is defined as an individual under the age of 24, and youth should be included in all levels of planning. Applicants are encouraged, but not required, to link their projects in some way to service-learning and emergency preparedness. The deadline for completed applications is August 4, 2003.

For more information, contact Kimberly Flowers, DC-CNCS Outreach Coordinator, at (202) 727-9461.